

Mbum language

Mbum proper, or **West Mbum**, is an Adamawa language of Cameroon spoken by about 51,000 people. Speakers are mostly bilingual in Fulfulde. It is also known as Buna, Mboum, Mboumtiba, and Wuna.

The Mbum are considered the original population of the Adamawa Plateau in Cameroon. However, some histories recall that there were a people already in the area when they arrived there centuries ago. They have had a long and close relationship with the neighboring Dii people in the eastern parts of Adamawa Province to the extent that it is frequently difficult to make any distinction between the two. Their relationship with the Fulani, who entered the region in the early-19th century, is more complex. The Fulani are often perceived as a ruling class; nevertheless, the Mbum have historically participated actively in the states set up by the Fulani.

Blench (2006) considers Gbete to be a separate language.

References

1. Mbum (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/mdd/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)

2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Mbum" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/anguoid/id/mbum1254>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

- Roger Blench, 2004. List of Adamawa languages (<http://www.rogerblench.info/Language/Niger-Congo/AU/Adamawa%20language%20list.pdf>) (ms)

Mbum	
West Mbum	
Native to	Cameroon, Central African Republic
Native speakers	(51,000 cited 1982–1996) ^[1]
Language family	<div>Niger–Congo<ul style="list-style-type: none">Atlantic–Congo<ul style="list-style-type: none">Volta-Congo<ul style="list-style-type: none">Savannas<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mbum–Day<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mbum languages<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mbum</div>
Dialects	? Gbete (Kpere)
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	mdd
Glottolog	mbum1254 (http://glottolog.org/resource/anguoid/id/mbum1254) ^[2]

External links

- A rapid appraisal survey of Gbete (<https://web.archive.org/web/20160914172853/http://www-01.sil.org/silesr/2002/SILESR2002-050.pdf>) by Jason Diller & Kari Jordan-Diller, 2002. SIL Electronic Survey Reports SILESR 2002-050.

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